



## Webinar on promoting measures to green the post-pandemic recovery

19 January 2021

10.00- 11.30 (Geneva time)

### Agenda

#### Background/rationale:

The United Nations Inter-Agency Issue-Based Coalition (IBC) on Environment and Climate Change for Europe and Central Asia was launched in March 2020 and consists of 18 member agencies: FAO, ILO, IOM, ITU, OHCHR, UN Habitat, UN Women, UNDP, UNDRR, UNECE, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFCCC, UNICEF, UNOPS, WFP, WHO and WMO. Since its establishment, in the past few months, IBC has created several task teams to work on a thematic basis by covering various topics including COVID-19 socioeconomic impact assessment and post-pandemic recovery strategy.

In subregional meetings, the Resident Coordinators in the region have noted that most countries are prioritizing economic recovery during the post COVID-19 period and that environmental perspectives are often ignored. They have requested the IBC to provide guidance and tools for assisting countries in integrating environmental and climate change issues into their recovery strategies and supporting a “building back better” approach – a green recovery.

As a follow up to this request, the IBC identified a set of recommendations for pathways for a more inclusive, environmentally sustainable and resilient COVID-19 recovery.<sup>1</sup> Making use of the diverse expertise of the 18 IBC member organizations, the recommendations – issued in August 2020 – provided basic guidance to Resident Coordinators, Country Teams and other partners working on recovery plans and assessments of the socioeconomic impacts of the pandemic.

Since then, the IBC has worked further to provide more detailed guidance on practical measures to be taken in recovery strategies and plans in the format of a compendium. The compendium, which will be presented at the webinar consists of 20 more elaborated practical measures to implement the recommendations in recovery plans. Each measure is accompanied by a description, its benefits, a case study and related Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets, with reference to measure-relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and some guidance materials.

In this context, the webinar has the following objectives:

- briefly present the purpose, structure and categories of measures included in the compendium
- collect feedback and comments from the Resident Coordinator Offices, Country Teams and participants on the compendium measures
- discuss opportunities and explore ways for financing of post-pandemic measures
- discuss and identify follow up actions to promote measures for post-pandemic green recovery at national and regional levels such as at the Regional Forum for Sustainable Development in March 2021.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/RCM\\_Website/IBCs/IBC\\_Environment/Final\\_IBC\\_Summary\\_recommendations\\_COVID-19\\_Recovery.pdf](https://unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/RCM_Website/IBCs/IBC_Environment/Final_IBC_Summary_recommendations_COVID-19_Recovery.pdf)

**Agenda:**

Time: 1.5 hours (19 January, 10.00-11.30 Geneva time) Via: Microsoft Teams

10.00-10.05 Welcoming words from Marco Keiner, Director UNECE Environment Division on behalf of the IBC co-chairs

*Webinar will be moderated by Ana Luisa Massot Thompson-Flores, Director UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe*

10.05-10.15 Purpose, structure and categories of the compendium of measures to green post-pandemic recovery, Nicholas Bonvoisin, IBC Core Team

10.15-10.30 Presentation of measures by thematic area: water management, Oliver Schmoll European Centre for Environment and Health, WHO Regional Office for Europe

10.30-10.40 Presentation of measures by thematic area: energy efficiency and renewable energy, Laura Altinger, UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and CIS

10.40-10.50 Presentation of measures by thematic area: sustainable/nature-based tourism, Marika Palosaari, UNEP Europe Office

10.50-11.00 Financing the post-COVID recovery: funding opportunities and mechanism, Veronika Safrankova, Head of UNEP Brussels Office

11.00-11.20 Q&A session, feedback and comments on the compendium measures

11.20-11.30 Discussion on the way forward and next follow up activities from IBC, Bruno Pozzi, Director, UNEP Europe office